REPORT

OF THE

EDINBURGH CONFERENCE,

(From Jan. 6th, 1850, to June 8th and 9th, 1850),

HELD IN

WHITEFIELD CHAPEL, HIGH STREET.

President, C. DUNN. Clerk, G. P. WAUGH.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9th, 1850. Conference assemhled at 11 o'clock, A. M., in Whitefield Chapel, foot of Carruhher's Close, High Street, according to previous notice. Elder H. Findlay called the meeting to order, and moved that Elder C. Dunn preside; seconded by Elder Geo. P. Waugh, and carried unanimously; and that Father Waugh, Clerk of Conference, minute the proceedings of the meeting.

Thereafter President Dunn gave out the hymn on the first page, which heing sung, Elder Joseph Clements, President of the Glasgow Conference, engaged in prayer. The saints then sang the hymn, "Earth with her Ten Thousand Flowers," &c., when President arose and said, "I feel happy to meet with so many of the saints and hrethren in the ministry in the capacity of a Conference, for to counsel together and arrange things adapted to the welfare and prosperity of the great work of God, which we as a people are engaged in, according to the wisdom imparted unto us, requesting an interest in the prayers of the saints convened, that we might be led by the Spirit of truth to counsel and instruct in righteousness in those things which tend to promote their peace and happiness here and hereafter." He then introduced his American brother above noted, who in the course of the day would address us on principles of eternal truth, as revealed for edification and comfort.

The officers present were I. H. P. 1.70, 27 E., 13 Pts., 10 Teachers, and 4 Deacons.

Before proceeding further, the President said, "I wish to make a few remarks, in order that we may do things unitedly. The various resolutions will he put in due form, as adopted in the Council last evening for your approval or disapproval; therefore remember, when you sanction hy your uplifted hands the authorities of the Church, you therehy covenant to uphold and sustain them hy your faith and works; because, when we adopt measures for promoting the work of God, we are under obligation to carry such measures into effect. Therefore, let us he decided in our movements, and endeavour to he guided hy the unerring Spirit of God, which is the privilege of his adopted children. And my prayer is that his Spirit may predominate in our midst this day and for ever."

After the above and other appropriate remarks were made, the following Resolutions were then laid before the meeting separately, and carried unanimously :—

Moved by C. Dunn and seconded by G. P. Waugh—That we uphold and sustain, by our faith and prayers, Brigham Young, as the first President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, with H. C. Kimball and Willard Richards, his Counsellors.

Moved by C. Dunn and seconded by W. A. Macmaster—That we sustain the Quorum of the Twelve, as Travelling High Counsel of said Church in all the world.

Moved by the above and seconded by H. Findlay—That we uphold Orson Pratt as the President of the British Conferences, and F. D. Richards his Counsellor.

Moved by W. A. Macmaster and seconded by H. Findlay—That we sustain Crandell Dunn as President of this Conference.

Moved by J. Ryrie and seconded by J. M'Neill—That we uphold Hugh Findlay, W. A. Macmaster, A. S. Adamson, and Alex. Macdonald as Travelling Elders.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by H. Findlay—That G. P. Waugh continue our *Star* Agent and Conference Clerk.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by J. Watson—That Elder J. Ryrie retain the Presidency of Perth branch, and travel in that vicinity as heretofore.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by H. Findlay—That Andrew Macfarlane retain the Presidency of Aberdeen branch, and labour in that vicinity as before.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by J. M'Neill—That the Saints in Inverness and vicinity be organised into a branch, under the Presidency of A. Macdonald, and be called the Inverness Branch.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by W. A. Macmaster—That we uphold our branch Presidents.

The President then said—We wish to establish an Emigrating Fund in this Conference, according to Pres Richard's instructions (see vol. xii. of the Star, p. 137), which we wish to be carried into effect in all the branches; therefore I move that each branch appoint an agent to receive donations for that purpose, with the full name and amount of the donor, and send the same to the general agent once a month. Seconded by G. P. Waugh and carried unanimously.

Moved by W. A. Macmaster and seconded by H. Findlay—That Pres. Dunn be the General Agent to receive those donations, with the names of the donors in full, and send the same to Pres. Pratt when called for.

Moved by H. Findlay and seconded by D. Calder—That, in order to carry out the instructions of Pres. Pratt, as in No. 4, vol. xii. of the Star, that each branch contribute, in proportion to their numbers, 1d. per month, to defray the contingencies of the president and travelling elders, to be sent with the elders' fund to Father Waugh fortnightly. The President of the branches within the Fifeshire district, under the direction of Travelling Elder W. A. Macmaster, are requested to pay over to him their portion of the said Contingent Fund. The Presidents of the branches also within Travelling Elder A. S. Adamson's district, will pay their portion of said Contingent Fund to him.

Moved by President Dunn and seconded by Travelling Elder H. Findlay—That, in terms of Pres. O. Pratt's counsel in Star, No. 3, vol. xii.,

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the branches which have subscribed to take four times their usual quota of Stars, commencing with No. 13 of the current volume, and failing to do so, shall pay 2½d. for one, in place of three copies for 3d.

Moved by Bro. H. Findlay and seconded by Bro. D. O. Calder—That the Minutes of this Conference be printed upon eight pages, Star size, for the benefit of those Saints who may desire to purchase them and to become acquainted with the condition and financial affairs of the Conference.

The President then called upon the Clerk to rehearse the branch representations given in the Council last evening, as inserted in the seventh page. Thereafter, he called upon Elder Clements of Glasgow to address the meeting, who expressed himself happy to have met with the Saints in this place, and felt highly gratified with the morning proceedings, and said, from the union which prevailed, it was a manifestation to him that the Spirit of the Lord was amongst *us;* and that, although a stranger in the flesh, yet not in the spirit, having all been baptized into one body, and made to drink into the one spirit; which oneness he ever found amongst the Saints wherever he met with them in Great Britain or America. He felt to rejoice with us in the ministration of the angel to our martyred prophet Joseph, in the restoration of the fulness of the everlasting gospel, in the gathering of the honest in heart, in the building up of Zion on the mountains of Ephraim, in the second coming of Jesus, our great Redeemer, and the glorious hope of the resurrection from among the dead, to be clothed upon with immortality and eternal life. "Therefore, brethren, be faithful, watchful, and prayerful; likewise obey the counsel of your President, and the Lord will bless you. Amen."

The President then said he had enjoyed himself well during the meeting, and felt much pleased with the remarks of Eld. Clements, and prayed that the Holy Ghost might be with him and all the elders of Israel; that they might be enabled thereby to build up the kingdom of God, and gather the honest in heart out of all nations unto Zion.

The Conference then adjourned till

A QUARTER PAST TWO, P.M.

Conference met pursuant to adjournment, and was opened by singing and prayer, when the President addressed the Saints and said,—"I feel truly thankful to our Father in heaven for every gift and blessing he has bestowed upon us in past life, but more especially for the gifts of the Holy Ghost, flowing from obedience to the Gospel, restored upon its primitive basis of apostles and prophets, from whence we obtained knowledge of things past, present, and to come; which we never could have attained unto, had not the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph fulfilled his promise to restore to his church and kingdom her judges as at the first and her counsellors as at the beginning, previous to her becoming the city of righteousness, the faithful city. For the prophet saith, 'Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will REVEAL unto them the abundance of peace and truth. And it shall be to me a Name of joy, praise, and honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it, saith the Lord.' 'For, when He shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory (Ps. cii. 13), and the redeemed of the Lord shall return and come

with singing unto Zion, and everlasting joy shall be upon their head. They shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and mourning shall flee away. For the Lord shall comfort Zion. He will comfort ALL her waste places! And HE will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody. For the Lord hath chosen Zion, he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever; here will I dwell, for I have desired it. I will also clothe her priests with salvation and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.' This was written for the generation to come, as saith the Psalmist. Hence we learn that the Lord would give revelation when he builds up Zion; and we assuredly know that the Lord, by his angels, hath spoken from the heavens, in this our day and generation, unto his chosen servants; and has sent Elijah the Prophet, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest (as saith the Lord) I come and smite the earth with a curse! For as saith Paul, 'Though Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the saints who had obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise, God having provided some better thing for *us*, that they without *us* should not be made perfect.' Now, How was Abraham justified before God when he was commanded to offer up his son Isaac? Was it not by his works of obedience that his faith was made perfect? It will be replied, Yes. Well then, How can we become perfect, although we have been baptized for the remission of our sins, unless we also obey the commandments revealed unto us? Or, How could we become perfect in the first resurrection, without obedience to what the Lord has revealed for us, to perform relative to our ancestors and friends who died before this latter-day dispensation of the gospel was ushered from the heavens into the world? For if Abraham and Isaac, &c. could not become perfect without the apostles, neither could the apostles nor saints of the former day dispensation become perfect without us. For instance, How could we enjoy perfect happiness in the first resurrection, or any one else, knowing at the same time that our fathers, mothers, wives, and children were doomed to suffer eternal punishment, without the least hope of their redemption from prison, as is taught at the present day, termed the meridian of gospel splendour and glory! Though many there are who deem this a very wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort, we have not so learned Christ; for, 'Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and being made perfect, he became the Author of eternal salvation unto all those that obey him.' 'Being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit, by which (Spirit) also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison, which some time were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the Ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. For, for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit. Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if so be the dead rise not at all? Why are they then baptized for the dead? For He hath sent me (Christ) to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison-house. Also, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord; to comfort all that mourn. Because it was revealed in mine ears by the Lord of Hosts. Surely this iniquity shall not be purged from you

till ye die, saith the Lord of Hosts. As for thee also, by the BLOOD OF THY COVENANT, I have sent forth the prisoners out of the pit, wherein is no water!' Now, we believe this to be a very wholesome doctrine and very full of comfort for you to know, that in as much as we continue faithful in all things revealed unto us respecting our departed ancestors, we shall become saviours unto them on Mount Zion when thekingdom shall be the Lord's. For it is written, 'That when the dead, small and great, stand before God, and the Books are opened, and another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life, and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works.'"

President Dunn then requested of the Branch Presidents, when they bring in their reports at Conference meetings, of those baptized, cut off, or died during the quarter, to hand in full particulars; and any women that are married when they enter the church, state her proper name: if her name is Janet (or any other name), say Mrs. Janet so and so, and not give her her husband's first name; and those that are cut off, or die, if they have not been baptized into their branch, let it be stated what branch they came from originally (that is, where they were baptized), so that the branch record in the Conference book may be turned up, and these items entered opposite their names. And females who enter the church unmarried, if they get married after they enter the church, and are afterwards cut off or die, let it be stated in the President's reports, their name, when they were baptized, also her husband's name, so that their names may be easily found on the record. The same will apply to any who emigrate, or leave the Conference; and when the priesthood is taken from any officer, let it be also stated in the President's report the name and date when the office was taken from him; these items are to be mentioned particularly, so that a complete record may be kept. If these things are not attended to, many mistakes may occur, for out of the books we are to be judged. There is great utility, in keeping a record, to keep a strict account of all things in connection with the ministry, and it would be well for all heads of families to keep a private journal, and a record of their relations who have passed off this stage of action; and let it be remembered, in respect to the resurrection, it will just be according to the things written in the books that we will be judged. There is an order in these things that will be necessary for us to attend to; and if these things are not written in the books, it will be a long time before we make up what we may lose in the time we are searching for them. The ideas of getting saved, in the kingdom of God, among the Christian world, are that they are just to pass into heaven without any particular plan, if they only pray to the Lord to receive their soul; but it is not so in the kingdom of God. There is a particular plan of the great Jehovah laid down, and it will be necessary for us to attend to it strictly. Perfect order must be attended to, and he hopes they will gather up all things—particularly those that are heads of families—an account of all they can get of their genealogy, whom they have sprung from, with an account of their forefathers, births, deaths, and where buried; and he hoped the Saints will be diligent as far as it is in their power, not only in recording baptisms and ordinations, for all these things will be necessary. By attending to order in the kingdom of God, we will finally renovate the earth, and bring to pass all things spoken of by the prophets of God. The reason mankind has not done it is, because they have transgressed the laws and broken the everlasting covenant. They would not observe the order of God, but have adopted a

plan to please themselves; so he withdrew his spirit from the children of men, and they are now far removed from the Almighty.

The President thereafter gave the annexed instructions to the officers and saints present, respecting their future proceedings, viz.

"Let those who may be called to office be ordained in their respective branches, as directed in the Book of Covenants, sect. 2, par. 16. I wish no one to be called and ordained in any branch of this Conference, so long as I preside, without my concurrence; and I hope and trust that every officer and saint will attend to counsel, and use every effort to roll forth the great work of God. Ye officers, see that you do not tarnish the holy priesthood that you have received. Remember your high and holy calling, and abstain from every appearance of evil. Let us be united heart and hand in the glorious work of the Lord in which we are engaged, and it will roll on, and no power can hinder. But should we become divided like Babylon, we shall no longer be Christ's. Therefore, let us be governed by the Spirit of God, and all will be well. Preach nothing to this generation but the first principles of the Gospel; and when they have obeyed them and wish to know more, tell them to go to Zion. If they ask, Where is Zion? tell them, in America. And if they ask, What is Zion? tell them, the pure in heart." Adjourned till

A QUARTER PAST SIX, P. M.

The Meeting opened in the usual way, when Elder Clements addressed the audience on the resurrection of the dead, to the edification and comfort of all present; bore strong testimony to the Cause, in which the saints concur; exhorted them to obey the counsel given them during the day by their President, and the blessings of God would attend them.

The Conference then adjourned till the 7th and 8th of September next, with the concluding benediction from the President.

EXTRACT OF ACT OF PARLIAMENT

AGAINST PERSONS DISTURBING PUBLIC WORSHIP

"That if any person or persons, at any time, do and shall wilfully and maliciously or contemptuously disquiet or disturb any meeting, assembly, or congregation of persons assembled for religious worship, permitted or authorized by this Act, or any former Act or Acts of Parliament, or shall in any way disturb, molest, or misuse any preacher, teacher, or persons officiating at such meeting, assembly, or congregation, or any person or persons there assembled, such person or persons so offending, upon proof thereof before any justice of the peace, by two or more creditable witnesses, shall find two sureties to be bound by recognizances in the penal sum of £50 to answer for such offence; and in default of such sureties, shall be committed to prison, there to remain till the next general or quarter-sessions; and upon conviction of the said offence at the said general or quarter-sessions, shall suffer the pain and penalty of £40."

52 George III. c. 155.

The Presidents of the various Branches met in Whitefield Chapel, on Saturday Evening, the 8th of June. After the Meeting was opened with Prayer by Elder C. Dunn, the following Representations were reported :—

NAMES OF BRANCHES.	NAMES OF PRESIDENTS.	Elders.	Priests.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Members	Total.	Baptized.	Received within the Conference	Do. from other Conferences.	Removed within the Conference	Removed out of the Conference.	Emigrated.	Cut off.	Died	Scattered.	Received for Elders' Fund.			Received extra for Pres Gibson's removal			Received to defray Conference contingencies.			Branches due for Books, &c		
																	£	s	d	£	s	d.	£	s	d.	£	s	d.
Aberdeen,	A. Macfarlane,	2	1	1	..	24	28	1	1	...	3	...	..	2	1	8	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	6	...	...	9	5½
Arbroath,	J. Booth,	1	...	1	1	39	42	13	8	...	1	..	..	1	.	1	..	14	10	..	10	..	..	7	...	...	...	..
Black Braes,	J. Jenkins,	..	1	1	1	36	39	2	3	...	12	3	...	2	1	..	..	10	4	..	10	..	..	9	...	..	7	11
Bo'ness,	J. Russel,	2	...	5	1	59	67	10	2	...	..	1	..	5	...	1	1	11	10	..	...	..	...	...	..	...	18	9
Clackmannan,	D. Russell,	3	1	4	1	72	81	7	5	...	2	..	9	3	...	3	.	5	..	..	.	.	..	12	..	...	8	10
Crofthead,	A. Kinghorn,	1	1	2	...	16	20	1	4	...	10	7	..	9	...	...	..	5		...	...	...	..	7	..	1	1	2
Dundee,	A. Findlay,	2	5	9	2	189	207	41	3	1	8	..	..	15	2	1	5	...	4½	2	10	...	..	.	..	2	12	6
Dunfermline,	J. Duncan,	1	2	4	1	35	43	3	1	...	10	1	..	20	...	8	2	5	8	..	13	6	...	13	..	3	4	1½
Dysart, Wemyss	Wm Macfarlane,	2	3	4	2	67	78	5	...	..	...	...	2	7	...	4	2	3	3½	...	5	2	..	17	0	...		
Edinburgh,	R. Galt,	11	6	11	2	177	207	7	3	2	2	12	9	5	1	23	6	5	..	1	10	...	2	10	...	..	19	10
Falkirk,	D. Calder,	2	2	..	...	40	44	12	2	2	2	9	.	2	1	2	...	17	8	.	...	..	...	8	6	..	5	1
Hearthill,	R. Archibald,	1	1	1	..	25	28	5	7	..	6	...	..	3	...	...	..	13	9	..	9	..	..	5	...		.	6
Hunterfield,	J. Nibley,	2	3	2	2	36	45	7	4	...	2	...		..	...	...	...	13		..	..	...		8	...	1	2	9
Inverness,	A. M'Donald,	2	...	...	..	7	9	6	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..		...		..	.	.	..	...	..		12	6
Kirkcaldy,	J. M'Neill,	1	...	2	...	15	18	...	2	...	..	2	2	1	1	...	...	15	4	.	1	..	.	4	...		..	..
Lochgelly,	J. Watson,	2	1	3	2	35	43	8	...	..	10	..		1	...	1	1	8	5	..	10	9	...	10	...	..		
Newcraig,	J. Jenkins,	1	2	1	2	32	38	13	5	4	14	3		1	...	..		17	2½		8	...		8	..		6	10½
Oakley,	J. Neilson,	1	2	3	1	23	30	1	4	...	4	...	1	1	.	3	1	3	5	..	3	9½	.	5	6	..	8	7
Perth,	J. Ryrie,	1	3	2	1	50	57	17	...	3	2	1	..	14	...	9	...	10	11½	.	16	7½	...	12	...	..	7	11
Pittenweem,	J. Forbes,	...	3	...	...	17	20	...	...	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	.	...	.	..	3	4	.	...	...		5	1
Stirling,	J. Low,	1	...	...	1	10	12	1	1	...	...	..	..	.	...	..	...	.	...	...	...	..	.	...	...	.	.	.
Tranent,	T. Neill,	1	5	4	1	44	55	4	3	...	2	2	...	2	..	...	.	...	.	...	.	...	..	10	.	.	10	10½
At Cupar,	H. Findlay,	...	...	...	...	..	..	2	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	2	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	.
Scattered and Travelling Elders,		6	..	...	..	64	70	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	.	..	...	...	...	...	...	.	.	..	.
Total, with 1 High Priest,		46	42	60	21	1112	1281	166	58	12	90	41	23	95	7	66	26	1	..	9	1	2	9	12	...	14	2	9

N. B. The Saints in the above Abstract are chiefly in good standing and prospects cheering.

FINANCIAL EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS,

REPORTED PER ABSTRACT PAGE.

Travelling Elders' Family Fund.

1850.								
June 8.	By Donations received per Abstract on page 7,				£26	1	0
Jan. 6.	To Pres. Gibson's family from the Edin. Branch per data,	£ 0	5	5			
May 14.	To two American Elders on a mission to Denmark,	2	5	0			
June 8.	To Pres. Dunn's family from 7th Jan. last,	13	13	8			
	To El. Macmaster's do., in Fife and Clackmannan district,	7	16	0½			
	To Elder Adamson's Wife (part of time) in Linlithgow district,	2	0	10½			
		£26	1	0	£26	1	0

June 8.	By Contributions, including 5s. 2d. for Dysart and 3s. 4d. for Pittenweem contingent arrears,	£ 9	1	2			
Jan. 6.	To extra expenses voted by Jan. Conference for Pres. Gibson, besides £16 4s. 7d. to remove, and £11 1s. 11½d. for Dec. Quarterly Elders' Fund,	9	0	0			
	Balance carried to Contingent account,	£ 0	1	2	£ 0	1	2

	Balance brought down to Contingent Account,	£ 0	1	2			
June 8.	Contingent Contributions paid to date, £ 9 12 0						
	Do. due by Dundee, £2 10s., Bo'ness, 10s., Perth, 3s. 4½d, Pittenweem, 2s. 6d., 3 5 10½						
		£12	17	10½	£12	19	0½

Expenditure of Contingent Fund—

Jan.	To house painting, gas tube, and bracket fitting, house cleaning and sundries,	£ 2	0	4			
June 8.	Repaid borrowed to remove Sister Dunn from England to Edinburgh,	2	0	0			
Jan. 11.	To cash borrowed of Edin. Council, to pay Brother Mustard for Brother Gibson,	1	14	0			
Feb. 15.	To Liverpool Office for 420 Forms of Ordination Licences,	0	8	7			
April 5.	To paid Taxes and Gas Co.'s Bills, mostly in Pres. Gibson's time,	1	10	0			
May 15.	To Rent of President's house from Martinmas to date,	5	0	0			
June 8.	To Stationery and Stamps to Conference Treasurer for years past, say	0	6	1½			
		£12	19	0½	£12	19	0½

State of Conference Book Agent's Account with Star Office, Liverpool.

To Stars and Books unsold, due the Office, 15th Dec 1849,	£33	13	8			
To amount of sundry Publications from Jan. 1 to June 15,	50	11	6			
				£84	5	2
By Cash remitted from 24th Dec. to 8th June,	£48	15	0			
By Publications unsold in Conference Agent's hands,	19	8	6			
By Ditto due by Sub-Agents of branches,	14	2	9			
By Cash posted on the 15th June,	1	18	11			
	£84	5	2	£84	5	2

Donation from an Edin. Saint, posted for Emigration Fund, £1.

N. B. The above are distinct from the usual Expenditures for various branch purposes.

Having audited the above, I certify to their accuracy,

C. DUNN, President.